



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON, DC 20380-1775

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5803
JAR1
30 Oct 03

From: Director, Judge Advocate Division

Subj: CERTIFICATION OF "GOOD STANDING" WITH LICENSING AUTHORITY

Ref: (a) JAG memo 5803 Ser 13/2PR12509.03 of 20 Oct 03
(b) JAGINST 5803.1B, Rule 8.6

1. Pursuant to references (a) and (b), all active duty Marine judge advocates, drilling reserve judge advocates and Marine Corps civilian and contract attorneys who are practicing under the authority of reference (b) are required to certify that they are in "good standing" with their licensing authority. Certification must be made to JAS no later than 31 January 2004.

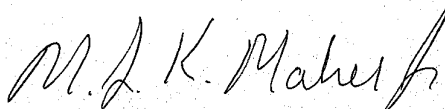
2. To ensure compliance, supervising attorneys are requested to certify to JAS that you verified the "good standing" status of all judge advocates and civilian attorneys under your cognizance. Supervisory attorneys should provide to JAS a list of all attorneys for whom they verified the "good standing" status. JAS does not require the "good standing" documentation of those attorneys. Marine Corps supervisory attorneys, however, will provide their (personal bar status) documentation for certification directly to JAS.

3. We define supervisory attorneys, in this instance, as all Staff Judge Advocates, Officers-in-Charge, LSSS, and Directors of Law Centers along with those officers specifically identified below. The Chief Judge, Navy/Marine Corps Trial Judiciary, agreed to certify for all Marine Corps sitting judges other than those on the Navy/Marine Corps Court of Appeals. The Chief Judge, Navy/Marine Corps Court of Appeals, agreed to certify for Marines on the appellate court. The Assistant Judge Advocate General of the Navy for Military Justice agreed to certify for Marines assigned to NAMARA. The senior Marine Officer assigned to The Judge Advocate General's School of the Army (TJAGSA) will certify for the Marine students and staff at TJAGSA. All drilling reservists will provide proof of "good standing" directly to Lieutenant Colonel Steve Waldron, Staff Judge Advocate, Marine Corps Reserve Support Command. Attorneys not covered in one of the above categories will provide documentation of "good status" directly to JAS.

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4. Any 2003 or 2004 documentation from a licensing authority that indicates the attorney is in "good standing" will satisfy this requirement. For example, a copy of a current bar card or letter noting such status and issued in 2003 or 2004 is acceptable. Attorneys licensed in multiple jurisdictions need only certify "good standing" with one state bar. Counsel are reminded, however, that reference (b) requires an attorney to report initiation of a disciplinary investigation or adverse action by any jurisdiction in which an attorney is licensed.

5. Individuals with additional questions or concerns should contact Maj Kleis at (703) 614-3412/DSN 224-3412 or KleisER@hqmc.usmc.mil for assistance.



M. J. K. MAHER, JR.

By direction

Distribution:

Active duty Marine Corps judge advocates

Reserve Marine Corps judge advocate

Marine Corps civil service and contract attorneys